(iii) Government of Orissa has now ordered a full-fledged vigilance inquiry to look into all deficiencies pointed in the World Bank report regarding the State Health System Project.

Malnutrition deaths

†1613. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the UNICEF report wherein it has been stated that in India more than five thousand children below five years of age die *every day due to malnutrition and other reasons;*

(b) if so, the information with Goverment in this regard;

(c) whether Government agrees with the facts given in this report; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) According to the State of the World Children 2008 UNICEF Report, the mortality for children under the age of five is 76 per thousand.

According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) the mortality for children under the age of five is 74 per thousand. The Government of India, relies on the NFHS survey data for the under five mortality rates.

The Government is implementing the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) II Programme *under the umbrella of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to improve the availaibility* and access of quality health care for children in order to bring about a reduction in child mortality.

Diabetes patients

1614. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated people affected by diabetes in the country as of 2007;

(b) the total increase of such cases as compared to the previous years;

(c) the main causes of this disease in the country;

(d) what steps are being taken to educate the people about the effects of this disease and how to control the spread of this dreaded problem in the country; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that it is affecting even the younger generation in the country and if so, the action to contain the spread of diabetes in the youth of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Accoding to ICMR, it is estimated that there were about 3.78 crores cases of diabetes in India in 2004. The estimated *figure for 1998 was 3.12 crores. No year-wise date regarding number of diabetic* persons is available.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.